77. Needs of the Northern group of *pakuthies* of the Karunagapalli taluk in respect of public works.

Mr. G. Raman Menon M. A. (Member, Karunagapalli Taluk) dealt with the public works needed under three main heads. Under works to afford facilities for means of locomotion, the first item of requirement was the road leading from the northern side of Puthupalli to Kayankulam. It joined the main road from Oachira to Kayankulam and extended as far as the border of the backwater to a distance of about 2 miles. It should be improved and the small bridge over the canal to the west of Krishnapuram, which was in a damaged condition, should be repaired and maintained in a serviceable condition. Another bridge was also required over the Thazhathodu. The want of the bridge was a source of indescribable hardship and danger to school-children, women and men who were obliged at present to wade through water even during the summer. The second road was the one which started from Oachira and ended at Ayiramthengoo *via* Prayar, its length being 2 miles. It was in a highly neglected condition and, if improved and made cartable, would be of great use to tradesmen who could then easily transport their goods to the backwater. The third road he referred to was the one to the south of the Krishnapuram Palace and the Munsiff's Court leading to Puthupalli Thekku. The litigants going to the Krishnapuram Munsiff's Court would find it highly useful, as most of them came from Puthupalli, Prayar, Perunadu, Azhikkal and other places. The whole length as far as the backwater was only 1¼ miles. The fourth road wanting attention was the one from Changankulangara to Vallikkavu to a distance of about 4 miles. The fifth item was the improvement of the road from Oachira to Thamarakulam. The sixth road which stood in need of repair was the one from Changankulangara to Thazhava. The seventh road was the one from Govindamuttathu to the north of Puthupalli to Chirakkadavu. As that road was not in a fit state, a ferry boat was provided in the backwater for which the annual maintenance was more than Rs. 100. It would not, the Member submitted, perhaps be possible to carry out all the works at once. What he requested was that a few items be taken up every year.

The Member then took up those public works which would be useful for agricultural operations. The first requirement was the improvement of Thazhathodu. The second request of the Member was that, in the absence of water during the hot weather for their agricultural work, an embankment should be constructed at a higher portion of either the Krishnapuram *thodu* or the Kayankulam *thodu* to store water and that feeder channels should be cut to take the water to places where it was scarce.

The last division of his subject related to proposals regarding the health of the people. Oachira had a temple of great sanctity to which people of all castes and creeds resorted. From a long time wells and tanks for different castes of people had existed there. But they had gone into disrepair with the result that people suffering from such contagious diseases as leprosy were using them. They were also being put to great hardship and trouble on account of the absence of the necessary conveniences for halting. What the Member wanted was that arrangements should be made for affording all conveniences to pilgrims in the shape of rest houses, wells, tanks, &c. He also wanted an Ayurvedic Dispensary.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

78. Needs of the Karthigapalli taluk.

Mr. N. Raman Pillai (Member, Kartigapalli Taluk) requested the improvement of the following roads :—

(1) Metalling of the road from Kayankulam to Nangiarkulangara.

(2) Gravelling of the road from Kayankulam to Karthigapalli street *via* Muthukulam and Keerikad.

(3) Conversion into a cartable road of the trace which started from the western backwater and ended in the Evoor *punja* fields.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly